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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/654,885	09/05/2000	Kenji Matsuoka	24369	7602
7590	04/08/2004		EXAMINER	
Nath & Associates 1030 15th Street NW Sixth Floor Washington, DC 20005			TILLERY, RASHAWN N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2612	
			DATE MAILED: 04/08/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/654,885	MATSUOKA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Rashawn N Tillery	2612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 January 2004.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1-5 in Paper No. 5 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Matoba et al (US5450129).

Regarding claim 1, Matoba discloses, in figures 2 and 31A, a wide angle image pickup apparatus comprising:

a solid-state image device containing a standard image pickup region (NTSC) in which image pickup devices of a number (525H) corresponding to the number of horizontal scanning lines of a video image signal in accordance with standard television system are arranged in a vertical direction and a peripheral image pickup region (PAL) which is provided at least on vertically top and vertically bottom of the standard image pickup region and in which multiple image pickup devices are arranged in the vertical direction; and

a reduction processing means (trimming mode; see figure 31a) for reducing a pixel signal outputted from the standard image pickup region and peripheral image pickup region of the solid-state image device so as to output a video signal having the number of the horizontal scanning lines (Matoba teaches a system for converting different television standard signals. In one embodiment, PAL images are recorded and the recorded image is regenerated in an NTSC or PAL mode. In the NTSC mode, since the number of lines of PAL images are greater than the number of lines of NTSC images, the number of lines of PAL images are reduced to meet the specifications of an NTSC system; see col. 20, line 55 to col. 21, line 30).

The examiner notes the differences in Applicant's invention as it is described in the specification and the prior art- specifically Applicant's focus on camera shake correction. However, Applicant's claim language is currently written broadly enough where a broad interpretation of the prior art reference could be read on it.

Regarding claim 2, Matoba discloses, in figure 28, the solid-state image device reads out a pixel signal from the standard image pickup region and peripheral image pickup region (see claim 1 above); and

the reduction processing means contains a memory means (326) in which a pixel signal outputted from the solid-state image device is written and read out synchronously with a vertical synchronous signal of the video signal (see col. 9, lines 12-63).

Regarding claim 3, Matoba discloses a normal image pickup mode (NTSC mode) and reduction image pickup mode (NTSC mode), wherein

under the normal image pickup mode, a pixel signal outputted from the standard image pickup region of the solid-state image device is outputted as the video signal without the reduction processing by the reduction processing means (Matoba outputs all the scanning lines of an NTSC image), and

under the reduction image pickup mode, a pixel signal outputted from the standard image pickup region and peripheral image pickup region of the solid-state image device is outputted as the video signal with the reduction processing by the reduction processing means (Matoba reduces the number of scanning lines output of a PAL image).

Regarding claim 4, see claim 2 above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matoba et al in view of Horii (US6018363).

Matoba discloses a wide angle image pickup apparatus comprising:
a solid-state image device containing a standard image pickup region (NTSC) in which image pickup devices of a number (525H) corresponding to the number of horizontal scanning lines of a video image signal in accordance with standard television

system are arranged in a vertical direction and a peripheral image pickup region (PAL) which is provided at least on vertically top and vertically bottom of the standard image pickup region and in which multiple image pickup devices are arranged in the vertical direction; and

the wide angle image pickup apparatus further containing a still image output mode for outputting pixel signals corresponding to a screen outputted from the standard image pickup region and peripheral image pickup region of the solid-state image device (Matoba teaches, in a PAL mode, when a PAL image is recorded, outputting all the pixel signals of the PAL image which inherently includes pixel signals of the NTSC).

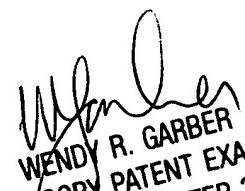
Matoba does not expressly disclose a moving image output mode. Horii teaches a camera system operable in moving image mode (normal mode) and a still image mode (high resolution mode). In the moving image mode the number of pixels output are reduced. In the still image mode, all of the pixels are output (see col. 6, line 5 to col. 6, line 10; also see col. 12, line 14 to col. 13, line 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Motaba's device by implementing Horii's teachings. One would have been motivated to do so in an effort to provide the flexibility of producing high resolution images as well as standard video images to be output to a video monitor.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rashawn N Tillery whose telephone number is 703-305-0627. The examiner can normally be reached on 9AM-6:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 703-305-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RNT


WENDY R. GARBER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600